

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 06316 181725Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
EB-08 INR-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 CA-01 SCS-06
PA-01 SS-15 /062 W
-----061712 181745Z /42
O 181711Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9599

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DEPT FOR AMB NEGROPONTE
PASS OIF/NMFS/NOAA/DOC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, MX, PLOS
SUBJECT: SEIZURE TUNA SEINER CONCHO

REF: (A) STATE 97976; (B) MEXICO 6218; (C) NEGROPONTE/
THOMPSON TELECON

1. ON SUBJECT OF REFS MINISTER THOMPSON HELD REPEATED
CONVERSATIONS WITH GOM FONOFF UNDERSECRETARY ROSENZWEIG-
DIAZ ON SATURDAY APRIL 15 AND MONDAY APRIL 17. EMPHASIS
WAS PLACED ON FOLLOWING:

A. NEED TO RELEASE CONCHO ASAP, UNDER BOND IF
NECESSARY, AND SETTLE ISSUE OF LACK OF CERTIFICATION
LATER.

B. CASE OF CONCHO SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED INFRACTION
BECAUSE FEE FOR CERTIFICATE OF THIS VESSEL AND REST OF
FLEET HAD BEEN PAID AND WAS HELD BY NMFS OFFICE TERMINAL
ISLAND.

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C. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES HAD NOT BEEN MADE
APPARENTLY PENDING RESOLUTION BY GOM DEPT FISHERIES
SEVERAL ISSUES SUCH AS STATUS OF PENDING US VESSEL APPLI-
CATIONS FOR 1977 CERTIFICATES AND CONSULTATIONS ON NEW
TUNA CONSERVATION REGIME.

D. THE NEED TO SETTLE CONCHO SEIZURE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID ADVERSE REPERCUSSIONS AND FUTURE INCIDENTS WITH REMAINING US FLEET OPERATING IN MEXICAN WATERS.

2. ROSENZWEIG-DIAZ INITIALLY MENTIONED NOT UNDERSTANDING WHY APPLICATIONS AND PAYMENT FOR CERTIFICATES HAD NOT BEEN MADE REGARDLESS OF PENDING DELIBERATIONS BUT CONCEDED THAT IN REALITY CONCHO CASE SHOULD BE HANDLED LENIENTLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY. HE CONVEYED THIS REQUEST TO DEPT FISHERIES CHIEF RAFFUL ON SATURDAY APRIL 14.

3. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED NEED FOR EMBASSY TO TRANSMIT LIST OF 1978 APPLICANTS AND FEES ASAP TO FONOFF. ARRANGEMENTS COULD THEN BE MADE TO PROVIDE LIST OF VESSELS TO MEXICAN NAVY WHILE AT SAME TIME DEPT FISHERIES COULD WORK OUT DETAILS OF ISSUING CERTIFICATES. THOMPSON INDICATED ACTION ON ABOVE WAS ALREADY TAKING PLACE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO URGINGS DURING CALL ON MONDAY APRIL 17 TO ACT PROMPTLY TO AVOID FURTHER AGITATION AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS ABOUT CONCHO CASE, ROSENZWEIG-DIAZ NOTED HE HAD RECEIVED CALLS ON CONCHO CASE FROM OTHER SOURCES INCLUDING AMBASSADOR MARGAIN AND PROMISED TO PRESS DEPT FISHERIES AGAIN.

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5. ON APRIL 17 AT 1600 HRS DEPT FISHERIES INFORMED RFA CONCHO HAD BEEN CHARGED FOR FISHING IN MEXICAN WATERS WITHOUT VALID CERTIFICATE AND FINED 300,000 PESOS PLUS CONFISCATION OF CATCH AMOUNTING TO 4 OR 5 TONS TUNA. VESSEL REPRESENTATIVE AUGUST FELANDO NOTIFIED ABOUT DECISION. TO SETTLE FISH CONFISCATION CONCHO OWNERS CAN BUY FISH BACK TO AVOID DELAY AND MAKE PAYMENT FOR FINE AND FISH TOTALING APPROXIMATELY US\$ 16,800.

6. RFA WAS ALSO INFORMED BY DEPT FISHERIES CONCHO CASE CAN BE APPEALED WHICH WAS RELAYED TO FELANDO. LUCEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TUNA, SHIP DETENTION, FISHING BOATS, CONCHO F/V
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D780166-0073
Format: TEL
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780445/aaaabmeo.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, MX
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